

March 19, 1976

SENATOR MARVEL: Well in answer to your question, to be completely confusing let me say this, it's past experience that if you give money to university administrators in a lump sum or semi-lump sum the top brass gets the salary increases. This.... I can go back to the late 1950's and show you when we gave the University.... I have to wait till they get through with their conversation over there so I can continue with Senator George.

In the late 1950's we gave the University of Nebraska at Lincoln \$4 million unattached. We found, after everything had shaken itself down, that some top administrators got a 31 percent increase. So your point in this regard is well taken.

Let me also say this, unless this Legislature some how or other puts heat on the University administration and gives them some muscle and then follows up with it, we are never going to have these administrators earn their salaries. That's the dilemma we found ourselves in. If we constantly restrict them and don't give them some flexibility we're never going to find out how they can operate. That's our trouble.

I think what the Committee has tried to do, plus amendments, is to as much as possible put the heat on the University administration by giving them as closely as possible lump sum amount. I'm willing to try what we have for one year, but I also suggest to you that you follow it up rather closely. If we find, after a year, it's still a proliferation of administration and an increase in top salaries then this Legislature has either got to push to have these people fired, or else totally earmark the budgets. I think that's the dilemma we're in.

SENATOR GEORGE: I can fully agree with you, Senator Marvel.

PRESIDENT: Senator Duis.

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, I would like to speak with Senator Walter George just a little bit about this too, if he would listen to me. Senator George, years and years ago when I was first down here I was one of the advocates of earmarking. Of course, being in the Legislature and back out again and in again gives you a little different insight sometimes on the situation rather than if you'd just remained here. I certainly have changed my mind in regard to this. I believe very much that the Board of Regents and the President of the University, together with the Chancellor should be made responsible. We should not get down to counting pennies and setting salaries. They are the ones, the Board of Regents, who are elected by the people of the State of Nebraska to perform a function for them like we perform a function here in the Legislature. I earnestly believe that we should give them their lump sum situation, but that should be based on what they bring us here detailed. Then we give them a lump sum on the basis of that detail. Then they go ahead and administer the lump sum and then report back to us, that is the Appropriations Committee, the next year. If they haven't performed their